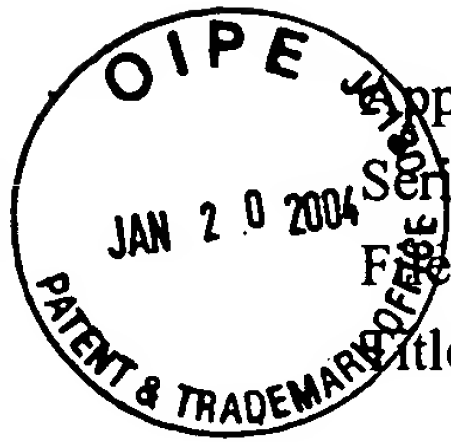


S/N 09/870407

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE



Applicant: Douglas J. LaCount et al.

Examiner: Gerald G Leffers

Serial No.: 09/870407

Group Art Unit: 1636

Filed: May 30, 2001

Docket No.: 875.030US1

Title: METHOD OF RAPIDLY GENERATING DOUBLE-STRANDED RNA AND METHODS OF USE THEREOF

AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE UNDER 37 CFR § 1.111

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

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JAN 27 2004

TECH CENTER 1600/2900

Sir:

Applicants have reviewed the Office Action mailed on July 15, 2003. Please amend the above-identified patent application as follows.

This response is accompanied by a Petition, as well as the appropriate fee, to obtain a three-month extension of the period for responding to the Office Action, thereby moving the deadline for response from October 15, 2003 to January 15, 2004.

Amendments to the Specification begin on page 2 of this paper.

Amendments to the claims are reflected in the listing of claims that begins on page 3 of this paper.

Remarks begin on page 11 of this paper.

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